DEPARTMENT OF WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT DIVISION OF ECONOMIC SUPPORT ADMINISTRATOR'S MEMO SERIES NOTICE 00-08

DATE: 05/31/00

DISPOSAL DATE: 04/30/02

RE: CALENDAR OR PROGRAM

YEAR 2001 INCOME MAINTENANCE PRELIMINARY

ALLOCATIONS - NOTICE

To: County Department of Human Services Directors

County Department of Social Services Directors County Economic Support Managers/Supervisors Tribal Chairpersons/Human Services Facilitators

Tribal Economic Support Directors

From: Jennifer L. Noyes

Administrator

The purpose of this memo is to provide notice to local agencies of preliminary funding information for Income Maintenance (IM) Programs for the period January 1, 2001, through December 31, 2001 (Calendar Year (CY) 2001), for counties, and October 1, 2000, through September 30, 2001 (Program Year (PY) 2001), for tribes. These preliminary allocations are being shared at this time to facilitate budget planning. One area that the Division continues to examine is the distribution of cases and workload between the IM Contract and the W-2 Contract. Any changes from these preliminary numbers, including those necessary as a result of legislative action, or any other federal or state action, that would increase or decrease the level of funding available will be shared as soon as possible.

Attached are the individual county and tribal preliminary allocations for the programs listed below. Allocation formulas employed are similar to past contract periods, unless otherwise indicated.

Income Maintenance Administrative Allocation (IMAA) -- Attachment 1, Column A

Funding in CY and PY 2001 is provided for the Food Stamp (FS) Program and Medicaid Program costs for delivery of income maintenance services for cases defined as IM Cases (Non W-2). See W-2 and Related Programs RFP for definitions. Funding for administration of Food Stamp and Medicaid for W-2 related cases is included in the

W-2 Contract. The base allocation for the IM Contract is the same as the annual allocation in 2000, which includes the increases applied in 2000.

The General Program Revenue (GPR) funding portion is contract controlled. However, contract overspending, using local funding as match, will be available for federal matching funds for FS and Medicaid related expenditures. Pre-payments will be issued.

Two types of incentives may supplement the IMAA for some or all counties and tribes throughout the contract period. These include Estate Recovery Program Incentives and Health Insurance Information Reporting Incentives. These funds must be spent to be earned. Underspending of the IMAA will result in the return of these incentive funds to the Division of Health Care Financing, Department of Health and Family Services (DHFS).

Medicaid Purchase Plan – Attachment 1, Column A.1. For CY/PY 2001 Medicaid Purchase Plan (MAPP) funds are again provided. Statewide available funds total \$82,500 for CY/PY 2001. For CY/PY 2000 statewide funding was slightly higher, at \$94,700. Preliminary allocations are based on the ratio of IMAA funding provided, with a minimum allocation of \$300, the same formula that was followed for the previous contract. Funds will be loaded along with IMAA funding.

II. Child Care Administration and Operations -- Attachment 1, Column B

Child Care administration and operations funding was determined by using January through December 1999 CARES benefit data, and 1999 CARS benefit data for the same twelve months, both available as of May 1. Wisconsin Statutes section 49.155(3m) establishes the amount of administration and operations funding at five (5) percent of benefit expenditures for the current year (CY/PY 2001), five (5) percent of benefit expenditures during the immediately preceding year (CY/PY 2000), or \$20,000, whichever is greater. Before preparing final contracts, allocations will be recalculated using a combination of 1999 data and available 2000 CARES and CARS data to determine the initial contract levels for 2000. The amount shown on the attached chart is for budget planning purposes. Funding is contract controlled. Pre-payments will be issued.

Child Care benefits are fully reimbursable and almost all are paid directly by the Client Assistance for Re-employment and Economic Support (CARES) system. Agencies will have the ability in certain limited situations to pay child care benefits and be reimbursed by the Community Aids Reporting System (CARS) for those cases that cannot be processed on CARES.

III. Child Care - Safe Child Initiative - Attachment 1, Column C

Proposed funds are provided to continue this initiative during 2001. Preliminary allocations are based on certified caregiver counts supplied to the Office of Child Care with minimum funding increased to \$2,250. Funding is contract controlled. Pre-payments will be issued.

IV. Medicaid Transportation -- Attachment 2, Column D

Medicaid Transportation allowable expenses are fully reimbursable. A contract level based on combined 1998 and 1999 reported spending will be loaded for counties for CY 2001 and tribes for PY 2001, for determining pre-payment levels. Agencies that reported little or no expenses for 1998 and 1999 under the IM Contract will receive a minimum allocation of \$500. Pre-payments will be issued.

V. W-2 Funeral/Cemetery -- Attachment 2, Column E

W-2 Funeral/Cemetery allowable expenses are fully reimbursable from TANF funding. The W-2 agency refers cases to the IM agency. A contract level based on combined 1998 and 1999 reported spending will be loaded for counties for CY 2001 and tribes for PY 2001, for determining pre-payment levels. Pre-payments will be issued.

VI. Non W-2 Funeral/Cemetery -- Attachment 2, Column F

Non W-2 (FS and Medicaid Only) Funeral and Cemetery allowable expenses are fully reimbursable from state General Purpose Revenues (GPR). A contract level based on combined 1998 and 1999 reported spending will be loaded for counties for CY 2001 and tribes for PY 2001, for determining pre-payment levels. Pre-payments will be issued.

VII. Public Assistance Fraud Program – Program Integrity – Attachment 3, Column G

The attached IM Public Assistance Fraud Elimination Program funding allocation is intended to address program integrity for Food Stamp Program and Medicaid IM cases. Similar funding is included, while not individually identified, in the Wisconsin Works (W-2) Contract. A minimum funding level of \$5,000 has been introduced.

VIII. Public Assistance Fraud Program – Investigation – Attachment 3, Column H and H.1

Funding is budgeted to address investigation costs on a pay for performance basis under the Fraud Investigation Services Contract RFP #JK-1701. The amounts will be included in the Administration of Income Maintenance (IM) Programs Contract for those counties and tribes that elected to provide Fraud Investigation Services. Case investigation referrals will go to the agency within the County authorized to conduct investigations by the County Board, County Board Chairperson or the County Executive, or referrals will be made to the agency subcontracting with the County/Tribe to provide Fraud Investigation Services. Column H.1 indicates those Counties and Tribes that elected to perform fraud investigations. Both the IM Agency and the W-2 Agency will be able to access investigation services through the county office/agency that exercised the Right of First Refusal for providing investigation services.

Funding is budgeting and accessible under a separate contract with the statewide vendor providing Fraud Investigation Services statewide. Fraud Investigation Services are provided under RFP #JK-1701. Both the IM Agency and the W-2 Agency will be able to access investigation services under this RFP.

Allocations <u>not</u> identified with this notice include the following:

- Emergency Assistance Program (formerly the Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) Emergency Assistance Program) - This program is administered by the W-2 agencies.
- Refugee Cash Assistance This program is administered by the W-2 agencies.

REGIONAL OFFICE CONTACT: Area Administrator

CENTRAL OFFICE CONTACT: Gerald Wilson, Contract Coordinator

Contracting Section

Bureau of Division-wide Services

608/266-5429

Attachments